

6-1-1977

Resist Newsletter, May-Jun 1977

Resist

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalrepository.trincoll.edu/resistnewsletter>

Recommended Citation

Resist, "Resist Newsletter, May-Jun 1977" (1977). *Resist Newsletters*. 159.
<https://digitalrepository.trincoll.edu/resistnewsletter/159>

RESIST

*a call to resist
illegitimate authority*

May-June 1977 - 720 Massachusetts Avenue, Room 4; Cambridge, MA 02139 #115

Reconstruction in Vietnam

(The following article is abridged from a two-part essay appearing in the April and May, 1977 issues of Peacework, a publication of the American Friends Service Committee, 2161 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, MA 02140).

For two and a half weeks, from January 22 to February 8, I visited the Socialist Republic of Vietnam as part of a six-member delegation of the AFSC. I came away from this brief visit with strong impressions both of the enormous difficulties the Vietnamese face and of the energy and enthusiasm with which they are rebuilding their country.

For most Americans, April 30, 1975 marked the end of the Vietnam War. For some, to be sure, the war was not yet over -- military deserters unable to return home, draft resisters serving prison sentences or still subject to indictment for Selective Service violations, servicemen and women stigmatized by less-than-honorable discharges, the families of men missing in action. For others, the war may never be over -- disabled veterans who lost limbs or were paralyzed as a result of war injuries, GI's suffering from severe psychological problems stemming from combat experiences. For the vast majority of Americans, however, April 30, 1975 signaled the end of a long, divisive, and traumatic national experience. For whatever reason, Americans, both officially and unofficially, chose to put the war behind them. So, from the American perspective, the war has been over now for two years.

Not so for the Vietnamese. Unfortunately, as we learned from our recent trip, peace has not come so easily to the Vietnamese. The fighter-bombers are no longer raining death and destruction on the countryside. The tiger cages at Con Son are no longer being used to imprison and torture those who advocated peace. Foreigners and their puppet regimes no longer presume to rule the nation. Peasants driven from their homes during the war are now free to return to their native villages (or to what remains of them). North and south, divided for more than 20 years, have been reunified. Independence Palace in Saigon, once cordoned off by police and roll upon roll of barbed wire, is now accessible to the public. But the effects of more than 30 years of war cannot be erased overnight.

(continued on page 2)

Fred Hampton 1977

(The following article is reprinted from The Black Panther and from the May 1977 issue of Keep Strong, a Chicago community magazine that Resist has supported in the past - see Newsletter #101.)

In one of the more amazing, unprecedented rulings in federal court history, Judge Samuel Perry last month dismissed charges against the FBI, former Cook County State's Attorney Edward Hanrahan, and eight of the 15 police officers who were involved in the raid which led to the December 4 murders of Black Panther Party leaders Fred Hampton and Mark Clark in 1969.

After 16 months of documentation and testimony put on by the plaintiffs, who are the families of Fred Hampton and Mark Clark and the seven survivors of the raid, Perry, 80, a native of Alabama, not only dismissed the case against most of the defendants but also ordered the plaintiffs to pay court costs estimated by some to be as high as half a million dollars.

Perry's new trial order, in effect, dismissed the plaintiffs' basic contention in the case: that the FBI conspired with Hanrahan to assassinate Hampton, the popular young leader of the Illinois Chapter of the Black Panther Party. By leaving in the case only those seven police officers who admittedly fired their guns, Perry has ruled that the murders of Fred Hampton, 21, and Mark Clark, 22, were at most a case of police brutality.

In arguing the defendants' motion to dismiss the charges, attorneys for the plaintiffs, Jeffrey Haas and Flint Taylor, reminded the court of the hundreds of FBI documents that were entered into evidence, proving the (Counterintelligence Program) operation initiated by the federal agency against the Black Panther Party. The documents openly admit that the operation's intent was to destroy the Party and 'neutralize' particular leaders.

Evidence of attempts to incite Chicago gang leaders to attack the Party was openly found in the FBI's own documents. The attorneys went on to remind the aging judge that the evidence showed that the FBI had hired an agent provocateur, William O'Neal, and instructed him to infiltrate the ranks of the Black Panther Party. It was shown that O'Neal acted as a conscious COINTELPRO agent, actively playing a disruptive role.

(continued on page 7)

Three decades of war left the land ravaged, the people physically and psychologically scarred, the economy gutted, and the culture degraded. The United Nations High Commission on Refugees, one of the international agencies operating in Hanoi, estimates that it will take 10-15 years to restore Vietnam to its pre-war condition. This assumes, of course, that the country can ever fully recover. The medical consequences of the extensive use of highly-toxic chemical defoliants, for example, will likely be felt for generations to come. What this prognosis does suggest, in no uncertain terms, is the staggering nature of the problems which confront "post-war" Vietnam. These problems loomed large everywhere we went.

Destruction of the Land

The most intensive bombing and, therefore, the greatest destruction in Vietnam occurred in the North and in the southern province of Quang Tri, which borders the 17th parallel, the temporary demarcation line which divided north and south. In the north, our visit was limited to Hanoi and its outskirts, damaged last during the B-52 raids of December 1972, and now largely rebuilt. In the south, our travels took us to urban centers and along sections of Highway 1 controlled during the war by the US-Saigon forces and, therefore, not targeted by bombing raids. Yet, even so, the devastation we observed was considerable.

Driving south through the mountainous regions between Qui Nhon and Nha Trang, we passed whole hillsides which had been sprayed with chemical defoliants. Today, where lush forests once stood, jagged silhouettes of barren tree trunks pierce the horizon. The timber loss caused by defoliation, shelling, and razing of forests has resulted in a shortage of much-needed building materials for constructing schools, hospitals, and housing.

In the new economic zone of Song Be province, just northwest of Ho Chi Minh City, thousands of acres of land were shelled, defoliated, then razed by bulldozers during the war. Bulldozers laid waste to a total area in the south roughly equivalent to the size of the state of Rhode Island. Before the war, the district we visited had been dotted with prosperous little villages, rich farmlands, and thriving rubber plantations. Now, nothing is left but flat, desolate land, partially overgrown with useless elephant grass. The rich topsoil was turned under by bulldozers, and the lack of natural cover vegetation has lowered the water table. New villages must be built from scratch, the soil nurtured back to fertility, and wells and irrigation canals dug. In the absence of farm machinery and draft animals (half the country's buffalo and oxen were killed in the war), virtually all work must be done by hand. Here, as elsewhere in the south, reclaiming arable land will be a lengthy and arduous task.

The Song Be province new economic area is one of numerous new economic zones being set up in the south in an effort both to reclaim cul-

tivated land destroyed during the war and to resettle refugees who were herded into the cities as part of the forced urbanization policy. Song Be province borders Kampuchea (Cambodia) to the north and Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon) to the south. It was considered to be part of the defense perimeter around Saigon and, as such, was the site of extremely heavy fighting. Song Be includes the so-called Iron Triangle, so named because of the tremendous quantity of ordnance expended in the area. Villages, fields and jungles, were shelled, defoliated, and then razed with giant bulldozers. By the time the war ended, thousands of acres of land were uninhabitable.

Since the war ended, more than 150,000 people have moved back to Song Be. They have done so voluntarily, but with the encouragement and assistance of the government. The headquarters of the Song Be new economic area was founded in May 1975, and since then 52 new farming villages of approximately 5000 people each have been literally built from scratch.

The Human Toll

Thirty years of war took a heavy toll on the Vietnamese people. The suffering continues today. Nearly two million Vietnamese were killed in the war, three million wounded, and 12 million made refugees. These figures are perhaps more meaningful to us when translated into US population percentage equivalents. Comparable statistics in terms of US population would be nine million Americans dead, 13.5 million wounded, and 54 million made refugees.

Virtually everyone with whom we spoke, both north and south, had lost at least one relative to the war. Others had lost considerably more. In Quang An farm cooperative, a community of 3500 people five km. from Hanoi, 320 young people went off to the war. Forty of them never returned alive and are regarded as martyrs. There are 5 others about whom there is still no information -- they are listed as missing in action. If Quang An village is at all typical, the number of Vietnamese MIA's must range in the tens of thousands. And the grief of their families is no less than that of the families of American MIA's.

Three million Vietnamese sustained injuries in the war. Many of them require ongoing treatment and rehabilitation. Additional millions suffer from maladies and diseases related to the war. Hoang Dinh Cau, Vice-Minister of Health, outlined some of these problems. The incidence of liver cancer and of birth defects is much higher than in the past. Although research has not been completed, chemical defoliants are the suspected cause. Malaria, the nation's most serious health problem, is rampant in the south. The 21 million bomb craters which riddle the landscape have contributed to the outbreak of malaria by serving as reservoirs for stagnant water and, therefore, breeding grounds for disease-carrying mosquitoes. One million people suffer from syphilis or other forms of venereal disease -- among them, 80% of the soldiers of the Saigon army and most of the prostitutes who serviced the American and Saigon troops. These

health problems, combined with the fact that even basic medical services were non-existent in much of the rural south under the Thieu regime, have placed an enormous burden on Vietnam's health care system. The country lacks adequate medical equipment, adequate supplies of medicine, and sufficient numbers of trained medical workers.

Disruption of the Economy

The war shattered Vietnam's economy, and full recovery will take many years to achieve. US bombing strikes and naval artillery bombardment of the north were aimed at bringing the economy to its knees and, thereby, undermining the people's will and capacity to resist. According to a UN study mission which visited Vietnam in March 1976, virtually the entire infrastructure of the north was damaged or destroyed. Roads, bridges, railways, trucks and locomotives, generating stations, fertilizer factories, steel mills, dikes and irrigation systems, harbors and fishing fleets were all damaged or completely ruined. Nine of the north's 30 provincial capitals were obliterated. Schools, hospitals, churches and houses were demolished.

The totality of this devastation has left the population impoverished and has seriously hampered the nation's ability to rebuild. We were struck by the incredible poverty of the people of Hanoi. Twenty years of socialism have eliminated the huge gaps between rich and poor, and there is no longer vast wealth amidst dire poverty. But 30 years of war have produced a poverty which is shared by all.

What is amazing is that, despite the enormous sacrifices they made during the war, the people of the north continue to sacrifice to aid in the reconstruction of the south -- sending

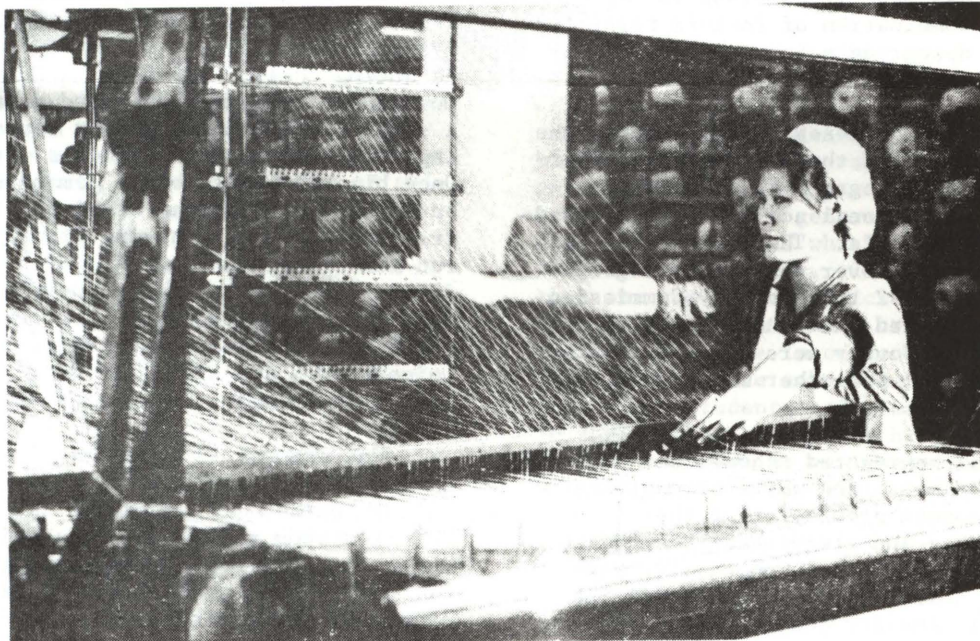
large numbers of trained personnel and substantial quantities of materials there.

In the south, the destructive power of the US military was unleashed upon rural areas. The strategy was to deny the guerillas a base of support among sympathetic rural people, by driving the villagers from the countryside into the more easily controlled urban centers.

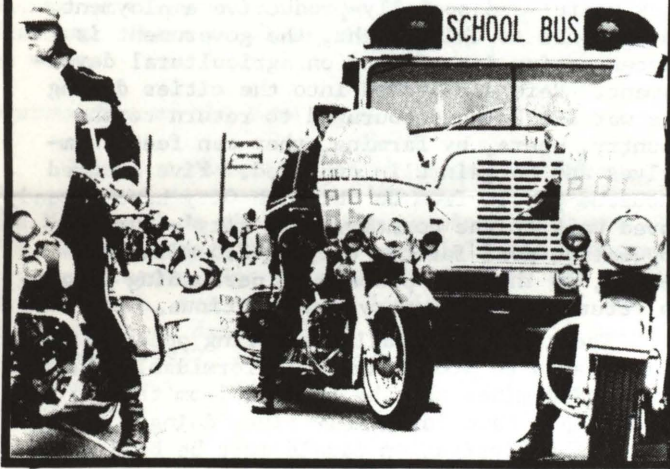
The economic and social chaos which the war created in the south constitutes the biggest problem which confronts Vietnam today. Although no one is actually starving, food supplies are inadequate. Hundreds of thousands of urban people lack useful and socially-productive employment. In response to this plight, the government is concentrating its efforts on agricultural development. Refugees herded into the cities during the war are being encouraged to return to the country, where, by farming, they can feed themselves and be gainfully employed. Five hundred thousand people from Ho Chi Minh City have already moved back to the country. The city's current population goal for the city is 2.5 million people, so the slow process of persuading people to return to the country must continue.

The task of actually restoring once-cultivated lands to productivity is formidable. First, unexploded mines must be removed from the earth; many people have lost their lives doing this work. Then irrigation canals must be built; for this, machines and tools for dredging are needed. In addition, fertilizers are essential. Vietnam has started to build factories to produce urea and phosphate fertilizer, but their output does not yet meet the country's needs. High-yield seedling -- rice and maize -- are needed, too. The Vietnamese are getting assistance with seedlings from some foreign countries and are also propagating some themselves. But the need far exceeds the available supply.

(continued on page 6)



BUSING



(Following is a report on a recent workshop on the Louisville school crisis. The workshop was supported in part by a grant from Resist - see Newsletter #110.)

In late April, some of us concerned about the future of education in our community held a workshop on the crisis in our schools. It was attended by about 180 parents, students, teachers, and other concerned people - black and white. Two years ago this would have been an impossible happening. What has made it possible in Louisville today is a combination of factors resulting from an order to desegregate its schools in July of 1975.

Prior to the school desegregation order, the schools in Louisville and the surrounding Jefferson County were highly segregated. In 1956 Louisville received national acclaim for supposedly integrating its schools. The integration at that time was token and over the years, segregation increased. In 1972 the Kentucky Commission on Human Rights reported that the schools in Louisville-Jefferson County were more segregated than those in at least ten other major southern cities.

One effect of segregated schools was that it prevented both the black and white communities from seeing the common problems that they faced. This, of course, was and always has been the intent of the segregationists. Conversely, when the schools were desegregated, this opened the way for the first time for joint action on the now evident and mutual problems that victimized all students.

Louisville:

A second result of school desegregation was that it produced an upsurge of interest in the schools and in educational issues in general. The initial months of busing in the fall of 1975 were marked by turmoil and anti-busing demonstrations. But gradually the turmoil subsided, and the new public interest in education remained.

New organizations were formed around the schools. The United Black Protective Parents, a grassroots black parents group, was organized in the fall of 1975 to fight for the right of black students to fair and equal treatment in the newly desegregated schools. Over the past two years, members of the UBPP have gone daily to different schools throughout the system to work on the many problems black students are facing - unjust suspensions, racist teachers and administrators, a lack of black studies in the curriculum, etc.

Another organization that was formed around the same time is called Progress in Education. PIE is an interracial group that came together initially to be a public voice in support of school desegregation and the right of black students to an equal education. One particular focus of PIE has been to attempt to reach out to white parents and students, to convince them that integrated education is to their benefit. For white children who grow up in a segregated environment are not being prepared to function in the multi-racial world in which we all live - a world in which only one out of every seven people is white.

Another result of school desegregation in Louisville is that a broad spectrum of people has been looking at the problems in the school system with a new-found militancy. During the 1960's, what began as a movement of black people demanding their civil rights, developed into a movement of all the oppressed demanding freedom. A similar pattern emerged in Louisville concerning education when the schools were desegregated. Once black students began demanding equality, the entire community began examining the kind of treatment it was receiving from the people who run the school system. A rising militancy in dealing with school issues developed and the demand for community input into the decisions of the School Board and administration has been voiced again and again. And the community has won at least some token gains on this issue.

One example of this new militancy is the strike that took place last November and December by the teachers of Jefferson County. When the school system refused to recognize the needs of these teachers for decent wages and working conditions, rather than yield the teachers went out on strike for several weeks. And they did not end their strike until their demands were substantially met.

Progress in Education

The April workshop on the school crisis was sponsored by PIE, UBPP, and the Louisville Civil Liberties Union. The workshop was possible because of the elimination of segregated schools in Louisville, because of our community's focus on education since September 1975, and because many people here are no longer willing to sit back and let the school administrators in our community destroy public education without a protest.

Workshop participants spent from 9:00 AM until 4:00 PM discussing the many problems that exist within our school system and what we can do about them. The major theme of every discussion was that in order to challenge the people who run our school system and the decisions they make, we must organize.

'The oppressor has never freed the oppressed. If you are waiting for someone to come along and free you, you are going to be sitting for another 200 years,' said Maxine Smith, one of the keynote speakers at the workshop. Ms. Smith is the executive secretary of the Memphis NAACP and a member of the Memphis School Board.

The other keynote speaker was Ed Berman, University of Louisville professor of education. He told the gathering that most of what they had ever been told about the public schools is myth and that the schools are actually designed to keep power in the hands of the few and to program the majority of us to become docile and obedient workers. 'There is nothing in the historical record to indicate that the people who control the school system will share political power,' Berman said. 'Political power must be taken from them.'

In small group discussions workshop participants pinpointed specific issues they wanted to organize around. Suspensions and in-school punishment in which there is no effort to help the students were high on the list. Large numbers of students have been suspended by the Jefferson County school system over the last two years. A disproportionate number of these students have been black. During the first six months of this school year, 55% of those suspended were black students although less than one quarter of the Jefferson County student population is black.

'Suspensions are a symptom of what's wrong with this school system,' said one speaker. 'The people running it don't care about students as human beings; they just want to force anyone who has a problem out of the schools. Suspensions should be eliminated entirely.'

Other concerns that the groups focussed on in the discussions included the cutbacks in teachers and educational programs, corporal punishment, the lack of affirmative action practiced by the school system, tracking of students, and the need for a community voice and control of the school system.

The school and government officials in Jefferson County won't take the initiative needed to achieve this atmosphere because they are responsible for the present situation. It will take the united action of people in our community - black and white - to put our school system on the road to providing every student a quality, integrated education - free of racism and discrimination. Whether or not this can be done is the question before us in Louisville, Kentucky, today. The stakes are high: they involve nothing less than the future existence of school desegregation and education in Louisville-Jefferson County.



It was the general agreement of most everybody at the workshop that the root of all the problems plaguing our school system is racism, and that racism is destroying education for both black and white students. Consequently desegregation is in real jeopardy in Louisville and so are the schools in general. It is not massive anti-busing marches which are the main problem. They no longer exist. The real problem now is that our top school officials - along with our local politicians - have created a horribly racist atmosphere in our school system. By continuing to oppose school desegregation, they have made black students and teachers feel unwelcome in their schools and they have fostered the conditions in which no one questions the systematic pushing out of both black students and teachers.

This situation threatens to tear apart our school system, but it is not inevitable that this should happen. What is needed is a different kind of atmosphere in our schools and community, one in which racist attitudes and actions will not be tolerated.

VIETNAM, Continued

"To bring back green to the country" is the nation's first priority. Vietnam is also struggling to rebuild its forestry and fishing industries, damaged heavily during the war. In order to improve the living standard of the people, handicrafts and light industries (textiles and shoe-making, for example) are being promoted. However, if production is to be sustained in the old factories of the south, spare parts and raw materials are needed from abroad.

A Culture Degraded

The influx into the country of more than 500,000 American troops and the general social dislocation which characterized the war resulted in considerable erosion of Vietnam's culture. In many ways, the American invasion brought with it the worst aspects of Western culture. In fact, this cultural imperialism is given prominence in the War Crimes Museum which we visited in Ho Chi Minh City. Along with displays recording the immense devastation and suffering inflicted by B-52s, fragmentation bombs, and chemical defoliants were exhibits relating the cultural degradation which occurred -- the proliferation of pornographic literature and films, the tremendous increase in drug addiction, the rapid growth of prostitution.

In addition to such specific and well-defined problems as prostitution and drug addiction, the old regime left behind the more pervasive and more subtle problems of hedonism and materialism. As two members of the delegation who had been in Saigon previously noted, young people during the war adopted self-indulgent attitudes, living only for the present and giving no thought to the future. In Saigon and other cities of the south, where black markets in imported commodities flourished, a consumer mentality emerged. These attitudes pose special problems for post-war Vietnam, since the mammoth task of reconstruction requires a certain amount of common sacrifice and active participation by all.

Status of Women

Just as they played a major role in the struggle for national independence, so, too, are the women of Vietnam actively involved in the reconstruction of the country and the development of a socialist society. Women have traditionally been the backbone of agricultural production, bearing the primary responsibility for work in the fields. Therefore, they have been involved in a significant way in efforts to reclaim arable land and to increase food production. But women are also breaking through into new fields of endeavor and, as we learned in conversations with the Women's Union, are changing themselves as well as altering the face of Vietnamese society.

The position of women in Vietnam today is a far cry from the non-status of women in feudal and colonial times. Women are recognized as an essential sector of the work force and, as such, are granted quite liberal work benefits.



At the same time that the status of women outside the home is improving, women are also finding themselves in a new role within the family. The family unit is tremendously important in Vietnamese society, and is far from becoming an anachronism. However, relationships within the family are being drastically changed in line with socialist goals and principles.

The Women's Union frankly admits that there is much still to be done to achieve complete equality between men and women. Feudalistic attitudes have not yet been entirely wiped out. The Women's Union is diligently working to increase the consciousness of both men and women and to provide women with the support and skills they need to feel comfortable in leadership capacities. Full equality for women is still a thing of the future, but since both men and women view the liberation of women as part of the socialist struggle, it is only a matter of time before it becomes a reality.

Hope, Confidence and Faith

Vietnam today is a nation at peace and a country reunited. Thirty years of war have left deep, if not indelible, scars on the land and the people. The weight of the problems the Vietnamese face in rebuilding their country is awesome, but Vietnam is slowly emerging from the anguish and devastation of war and is well on the road to recovery. A spirit of hope, confidence and faith in the future abounds.

The Vietnamese are a determined people, and that determination was the key to their success in defeating the greatest military power on earth. They are also a people of remarkable courage, and that courage enabled them to weather untold sufferings. Determination and courage will be required to rebuild their war-torn country and to develop a new society based on equality and justice. The Vietnamese people seem entirely equal to this challenge.

Carol Bragg, AFSC, Providence, RI

HAMPTON, continued

A map of Hampton's apartment, with an X marking the spot where the dynamic Party leader slept, was turned over by O'Neal to FBI agent Roy Mitchell and then given to Hanrahan's special raiding force. For his part in the raid, O'Neal was paid a bonus of \$300 by the FBI.

The police, it was shown, decided against raiding the apartment when they knew the occupants would not be there, picking instead the ominous 4:00 AM time, knowing that Hampton and others would then be at home and asleep.

Then the moving and dramatic testimony of the survivors of the raid was presented, including that of Ms. Deborah Johnson, who was asleep and pregnant at the time of the raid with Fred Hampton, Jr. Ms. Johnson testified that when she was ordered out of the room by the police, Fred Hampton was unconscious on the bed but was not dead. She testified that she had been unable to wake the sleeping deputy BPP chairman. (Later, an independent autopsy was to show that Hampton was drugged.) Ms. Johnson testified that after she left the room she heard shots and then the words, 'He's good and dead now.'

Finally, the plaintiffs' attorneys reminded Perry of the extensive evidence pointing to a conspiracy between the FBI and Hanrahan, including a series of press conferences and fabricated simulations of the raid. An FBI internal memorandum was produced supporting the plaintiffs' contention that the Justice Department had convinced Hanrahan to drop charges against the survivors of the raid in return for a federal grand jury's not indicting Hanrahan and his raiding police squad.

Clearly the FBI as well as Hanrahan were attempting to keep secret their role in the assassination.

At the end of one long day of arguments, plaintiffs' attorneys called on the judge to remember that by law, the jury not he should rule on the facts of the case. Perry was not, they maintained, to decide if the evidence they presented was true. He had only to rule if the case had been presented.

Then, last month, the judge appeared in his dark glasses for a few minutes at 4:00 PM in his courtroom. It was only five days before the election in which defendant Hanrahan was a candidate for mayor. Clearing his throat, Perry quickly announced his order dismissing the case against all the FBI defendants, the state and county defendants, Hanrahan and eight of the police officers. For the second time in five years, Hanrahan had avoided a trial by jury for the murders of Fred Hampton and Mark Clark.

Motions were filed last month for a mistrial, urging that Perry's unprecedented awarding of court cost damages to the defendants midway in the trial, along with Hanrahan's many press conferences, must have influenced the jury. In addition, appeals on Perry's ruling are being filed.

Mark Clark's uncle, who has watched the trial closely, had this to say: 'It's ridiculous. To say that there was no conspiracy is ridiculous. Police who weren't shooting were there to back up those who were. They dismissed it against everybody but the seven police, and I wouldn't be surprised if they dismissed that, too.'

Hampton's brother Bill said, 'I'm not surprised. It's just another annihilation in the courts of Blacks and minorities. We must realize that countless other minorities and Blacks have been turned on by the same court. The judge's personal feelings entered into his decision because he didn't like the plaintiffs or their attorneys.'



GRANTS

CARUTHERSVILLE CONCERNED PARENTS
88 East Haven, Caruthersville, Missouri 63830

More than 70% of the black population of Caruthersville, in the "bootheel" of southeast Missouri, live on incomes below the poverty level. Caruthersville Concerned Parents are a group of black parents who have been working for two years to improve the educational opportunities for their children. So far, they have succeeded in establishing a black history week, eliminating discriminatory school fees, and establishing a tutoring program. They are currently creating a summer youth program, and Resist's grant will support this work.

THE FARM LABOR ORGANIZING COMMITTEE (FLOC)
408 Segur Avenue, Toledo, Ohio 43609

The FLOC is an independent farm labor and community organization, working in northwest Ohio, eastern Indiana, and southern Michigan. Each spring, 30,000 workers come to this area, working for small farmers who themselves are forced to accept the prices dictated by the large processors and canneries. For this reason, FLOC's strategy is to organize on an industrial and community basis, including both field hands and processing workers in their organizing efforts. In addition to signing up workers, FLOC organizes support groups, sponsors a legal clinic, and publishes the area's only bi-lingual newspaper. Resist's grant will go to support FLOC's organizing drive this summer.

BALAAM'S COURIER
c/o Ted Braun, 505 Orchard Dr., Carbondale,
Illinois 62901

"Balaam's Courier" is a socialist voice within the United Church of Christ. It was first published during the 1975 General Synod to support minorities and progressive caucuses within the church. At the forthcoming General Synod, "Balaam's Courier" intends to raise issues of multi-national corporations, affirmative action, and class bias within the operations of the church. Resist's grant will aid the "Balaam's Courier" collective in fund raising.

THOMAS WALKER DEFENSE COMMITTEE
189 Hamilton St., Cambridge, MA

For more than a year, a black family that moved into a previously all-white neighborhood of Boston has had to defend itself against racial attacks. One such attack occurred last July, while the family was entertaining friends and supporters at a barbeque. Thomas Walker, a relative of the family, was arrested and charged with injuring three youths. The Defence Committee enlisted the support of the National Jury Project in an attempt to obtain as fair a trial as possible. Resist's grant went to support the costs of the research necessary for jury selection.

TEXAS FARM WORKERS UNION
P.O. Box 876, San Juan, Texas 78589

The Texas Farm Workers Union recently completed a 300-mile march from the Mexican border to the state capital, demanding legislation that would give collective bargaining rights to farm workers. Now they are beginning a march from Texas to Washington D.C.: their goals are the repeal of so-called "right-to-work" laws (section 14-b of the Taft-Hartley Act) and the passage of a national Agricultural Labor Relations Act. The march will travel through states having "right-to-work" laws, and will gather signatures on petitions as it goes. Resist's grant will go to support the expenses of the march.

Good Reading

We have received some interesting books and pamphlets whose publication was aided by Resist grants.

SOUTHERN AFRICA/BLACK AMERICA: SAME STRUGGLE/ SAME FIGHT! is an analysis of the South African and Angolan liberation struggles. Written by Bill Sales, it is available from Black Liberation Press, Box 955, Harlem, NY 10027. The price is \$1.

THE IRON FIST AND THE VELVET GLOVE: AN ANALYSIS OF THE U.S. POLICE, is published by the Center for Research on Criminal Justice. This 232-page book is a revised and expanded second edition, drawing together for the first time information that documents the development of the U.S. police from night watchmen to a modern paramilitary organization. The book is available for \$3.75 from the Center, PO Box 4373, Berkeley, CA 94704.

Summer Grants?

Organizations and projects that need funding support operate on a year 'round basis. Because our income has dropped over past summers, we have been forced to turn down grant applications that deserve our -- and your -- support. So please dig a little deeper into your pockets than usual, and send us the largest contribution that you can. If you've received the Newsletter for awhile, and like our work, why not join the more than 200 people who pledge \$5 or more a month to give Resist extra financial stability. And if you have friends who you think might be interested in our work, send us their names and addresses and we will send them a copy of the Newsletter. Small but exciting projects are beginning in many parts of the country, and your financial support can help them grow.